

## STOCKTON UNIVERSITY Office of The Open Public Records Custodian

101 Vera King Farris Drive Galloway, New Jersey 08205 Phone: 609-652-4874 OPRArequest@stockton.edu www.stockton.edu

July 7, 2020

## Via Email at 90847-93023757@requests.muckrock.com

Samuel Trilling MuckRock News DEPT MR 90847 411A Highland Ave Somerville, MA 02144-2516

Re: OPRA Request No. 031820-1

Dear Mr. Trilling:

Stockton University's Open Public Records Act (OPRA) Custodian received your OPRA Request on March 18, 2020. As such, the seven (7) business day deadline to respond to your request was March 27, 2020.

OPRA allows custodians extensions of time pursuant to N.J.S.A. 47:1A-5.i, as follows: "The requestor shall be advised by the custodian when the record can be made available. If the record is not made available by that time, access shall be deemed denied." On March 9, 2020, New Jersey Governor Phil Murphy issued Executive Order 103 which declared a Public Health emergency, and the Declaration was extended on April 7 under Executive Order 119, on May 6, 2020 under Executive Order 138, and on June 4, 2020 under Executive Order 151, which also stated that previously entered Executive Orders remain "in full force and effect". On March 20, 2020, Governor Murphy also signed into law P.L. 2020, c. 10, which amended OPRA to suspend the 7-day response deadline when "a state of emergency, public health emergency, or state of local disaster emergency" has been declared. N.J.S.A. 47:1A-5(i)(2).

University employees, including the OPRA staff, began operating remotely on March 18, 2020, in accordance with the University's precautionary measures to protect its students, employees, and community during the COVID-19 global pandemic. The implementation of remote operations impacted the scope and timing of the University's OPRA responses.

By letter dated March 27, 2020, the OPRA Custodian extended the response time, until April 6, 2020. By letters dated April 6, 2020, April 24, 2020, May 4, 2020, May 22, 2020, June 11, 2020, and June 26, 2020, the Custodian extended the response date to July 7, 2020, because remote operations continued to impact the scope and timing of the University's ability to respond.

Your OPRA Request sought access to the following:

\* Any annual, quarterly or semesterly logs or reports that detail how often various school therapy services are provided to students. Please provide logs from the academic year beginning in 2014 through the present.

- \* Any reports, logs, or other data that tracks average wait times for students who have sought help for mental health issues. Please provide logs from the academic year beginning in 2014 through the present.
- \* The budget for mental health services for each year beginning in 2014 through the present.
- \* Any reports, logs, or other data that tracks the number of mental-health related accommodations requested each school year, as well as the outcomes of those accommodation requests. Please provide records beginning in 2014 through the present.
- \* Any and all policies related to mental health, including but not limited to policies governing leaves of absence (voluntary and involuntary) for students, as well as any logs or reports that note the voluntary and involuntary leaves of absences students have taken each year since 2014.

The requested documents will be made available to the general public, and this request is not being made for commercial purposes. In the event that there are fees, I would be grateful if you would inform me of the total charges in advance of fulfilling my request. I would prefer the request filled electronically, by e-mail attachment if available or CD-ROM if not

University employees, including the OPRA staff, continue to operate remotely in accordance with the Executive Orders. The implementation of remote operations and the recent furloughs of State employees, including OPRA staff, continue to impact the scope and timing of the University's OPRA responses.

We respectfully seek your patience for an additional extension of ten business days until Tuesday, July 21, 2020, to respond to this OPRA request. We appreciate your patience and courtesies and offer our sincere apologies for the delay in our response time.

If your request for access to a government record has been denied, you have a right to challenge the decision to deny access. At your option, you may either institute a proceeding in the Superior Court of New Jersey or file a complaint with the Government Records Council ("GRC") by completing the Denial of Access Complaint Form. You may contact the GRC by toll-free telephone at 866-850-0511; by mail at P.O. Box 819, Trenton, NJ, 08625; by e-mail at grc@dca.state.nj.us; or, at its web site located at www.state.nj.us/grc. The GRC can also answer other questions about OPRA. All questions regarding complaints filed in Superior Court should be directed to the Court Clerk in your County.

Sincerely,

Dawn Livingston
Dawn Livingston
On behalf of the OPRA Custodian
Tel. 609.652.4874
OPRArequest@stockton.edu

www.stockton.edu